

**ABSTRACT**

5 an electronic still camera comprising a lens, shutter, and exposure control system,
a focus and range control circuit, a solid state imaging device incorporating a
Charge Coupled Device (CCD) through which an image is focused, a digital control
unit through which timing and control of an image for electronic processing is
accomplished, an Analog-to-Digital (A/D) converter circuit to convert the analog
picture signals into their digital equivalents, a pixel buffer for collecting a complete
row of an image's digital equivalent, a frame buffer for collecting all rows of an
image's digital equivalent, and a selectively adjustable digital image compression
10 and decompression algorithm that compresses the size of a digital image and
selectively formats the compressed digital image to a compatible format for either
the IBM Personal Computer and related architectures or the Apple Macintosh PC
architecture as selected by the operator so that the digital image can be directly read
into most word processing, desktop publishing, and data base software packages
15 including means for executing the appropriate selected decompression algorithm;
and a memory input/output interface that provides both temporary storage of the
digital image and controls the transmission and interface with a standard Personal
Computer (PC) memory storage device such as a digital diskette. The digital
diskette is removably inserted into the housing of the camera prior to use in
20 recording digital image data.

